

# Rhodora

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## A SAILOR'S COLLECTION OF ALGAE.

FRANK S. COLLINS.

NOT long ago Dr. N. Wille of Christiania, Norway, placed in my hands for examination a small but interesting collection of American algae; interesting from the extension of range it gave to some species, but even more interesting from the way in which it was made. The specimens were collected by "Steuermann" Axel Moe, on various voyages to this country; from the ports at which the collections were made, and from some of the notes, the vessels in which Mr. Moe sailed were apparently mostly lumber carriers. A large part of the lumber freight from America to Europe is in the hands of the Scandinavians; the ships are not usually the most recent models; often they are vessels no longer available for other business, but the buoyant character of the cargo, and the excellent seamanship of the Swedes and Norwegians that command and man them, make them useful for many years after they would have been given up by other nationalities.

Mr. Moe had apparently no scientific knowledge of algae, but was accustomed to pick up at any port, one or two floating seaweeds that attracted his attention. They are all carefully mounted on paper, with particulars of locality and date. Other specimens, mostly forms of *Sargassum*, were picked up in open sea; and with them latitude and longitude, to the minute, are given in every case. On one voyage his sister, Ragnhild Moe, was with him and collected a few specimens; all the others are his own handiwork. The time during which these collections were made is from 1877 to 1902; the localities range from Newfoundland and Bay Chaleur to Yucatan; the only instances of fresh water algae are specimens of *Stigeoclonium*

and *Ulothrix*, noted as "On pine logs coming down the river" when the ship was at some Florida port.

For new stations, we may note *Gobia Baltica* (Gobi) Reinke, at Louisburg, N. S.; heretofore known in America only by a single finding at Newport, R. I. *Choreocolax Polysiphoniae*, Reinsch, from Nova Scotia, Maine being the former northern limit. *Dermocarpa prasina* (Reinsch) Born. & Flah., at Sydney, former northern limit, Maine. *Sphacelaria cirrhosa* (Roth) Ag., St. Lawrence River; with the exception of the warm-water colony at Quahaug Bay, Maine, not before reported north of Gloucester, Mass. *Dictyosiphon foeniculaceus*, forma *flaccidus*, Kjellm., from Newfoundland; a form extending from the north of Europe to Greenland, but not on record farther south on this coast. *Mesogloia divaricata* (Ag.) J. Ag., Newfoundland, not reported north of Maine. *Ulva fasciata*, Delile, Norfolk, Va., Florida being hitherto the northern limit.

The few species from Progreso, Mexico, are very tantalizing. Almost nothing is known of the algae of the Gulf coast of Mexico. Murray, in his Catalogue of the Marine Algae of the W. I. Region, after noting the rich flora of Florida, says, "The whole coast of the Gulf of Mexico has been ascertained to be barren," but here are very luxuriant specimens of *Caulerpa prolifera* (Forsk.) Lamour., *Codium tomentosum* (Huds.) Stack., *Bryothamnion Seaforthii* (Turn.) Kuetz., and *Eucheuma isiforme* (Ag.) J. Ag. Where these were found, it is more than likely that forms usually found with them elsewhere should also occur; and while we are grateful to Mr. Moe for so much, we can only wish we had been there with him.

The collection includes about seventy species, and it is now deposited in the herbarium of the Botanical Museum at Christiania, Norway. May the example find many followers.

MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS.

## AN UNDESCRIBED VARIETY OF GOLDENROD.

C. B. GRAVES.

IN the summer of 1892 I found in one of the swamps of Waterford, Connecticut, a form of *Solidago* that was new to me. Notwithstanding that it grew in a decidedly wet situation I was lead to think, on